federal register

Thursday
October 30, 1980

Part IX

Department of Transportation

Federal Aviation Administration

FAA Access to Flight Data Recorder and Cockpit Voice Recorder Tapes; Extension of Comment Period

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Parts 121 and 135

[Docket No. 20661; Notice No. 80-14A]

FAA Access to Flight Data Recorder and Cockpit Voice Recorder Tapes; Extension of Comment Period

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of extension of comment period.

SUMMARY: This notice extends the period for submission of public comments relating to Notice 80-14 (45 FR 57694; August 28, 1980) until November 26, 1980. Notice 80-14 contains proposals which will allow the Administrator to obtain flight data recorder information and cockpit voice recorder information at any time and at any place. This notice is based on a petition for extension from the Aerospace Industries Association of America, Inc. (AIA). The FAA has determined that it is in the public interest to extend the comment period to encourage submitters to undertake a thorough review of these proposals.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 26, 1980.

ADDRESS: Comments on Notice 80-14 may be mailed in duplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel, Attention: Rules Docket (AGC-204), Docket No. 20661, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591. All comments must be marked "Docket No. 20661." Comments may be inspected at Room 916 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Norman C. Miller, Regulatory Projects Branch (AVS-24); Safety Regulations Staff, Associate Administrator for Aviation standards, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20591; telephone (202) 755-8716.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice 80-14 was issued on August 25, 1980, and published in the **Federal Register** on August 28, 1980 (45 FR 57694). The notice proposes to allow the Administrator to obtain flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder information at any time and at any place. This information will be used to study the human factor element associated with aircraft operation and design to determine what, if any, regulatory changes should be made to enhance aviation safety. The proposals contained in the notice will not in any way change the Administrator's policy regarding use of information derived from flight data recorders and cockpit voice recorders in enforcement proceedings. The present comment period closes October 27, 1980. The AIA requested a 60-day extension of the comment period to allow their Human Factors Group to develop comments and proposals. The FAA recognizes the importance of human factors requirements in aircraft operation and design. In view of the 60-day comment period provided for in the original notice and the fact that the AIA study group was formed prior to October 10, 1980, the FAA believes an extension of 30 days is adequate. Accordingly, the comment period for Notice 80-14 is extended until November 26, 1980.

The FAA would also like to take this opportunity to clarify the question of cost burden on the air carriers. It is the agency's intention to assume the costs reasonably related to this program if it is undertaken. The details of this effort will be detailed in an agency order should this proposal become final.

(Secs. 313(a), 601, and 604, Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended (49 U.S.C. 1354(a), 1421, and 1424); Sec. 6(c), Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. 1655(c)); and 14 CFR Part 11)

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 24, 1980.

Langhorne Bond,

Administrator.

[FR Doc. 80-33841 Filed 10-29-80; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M